

AMENDED SET OF CLAIMS

1-18. (Cancelled).

19. (New) An experimental model for evaluating the effect of a medicine against asthenopia, wherein said asthenopia is caused by contracting ciliary muscle from a non-human animal *in vitro* repeatedly by the use of a smooth muscle contraction-inducing means selected from a chemical stimulant, an electrical stimulant and both thereof until said ciliary muscle shows a substantially stable decrease of $50 \pm 30\%$ in the tension of muscular contraction.

20. (New) The experimental model according to claim 19, wherein said ciliary muscle shows a decrease of $50 \pm 20\%$ in the tension of muscular contraction.

21. (New) The experimental model according to claim 19, wherein said ciliary muscle shows a decrease of $50 \pm 10\%$ in the tension of muscular contraction.

22. (New) The experimental model according to any one of claims 19 to 21, wherein the smooth muscle contraction-inducing means comprises a chemical stimulant selected from the group consisting of acetylcholine, serotonin, histamine, muscarine, nicotine and endothelin.

23. (New) An experimental model for evaluating the effect of a medicine against asthenopia, wherein said experimental model comprises ciliary muscle from a non-human animal in a state of asthenopia, wherein said asthenopia is caused by repeatedly contracting said ciliary muscle *in vitro* with an inducer of smooth muscle contraction comprising at least one inducer selected from a chemical stimulant, an electrical stimulant and combinations thereof, until said ciliary muscle shows a decrease of $50 \pm 30\%$ in the tension of muscular contraction.

24. (New) A method of preparing an *in vitro* experimental model for evaluating the effect of a medicine against asthenopia, which comprises

inducing repeated contractions of ciliary muscle derived from a non-human animal *in vitro* until said ciliary muscle shows a decrease of $50 \pm 30\%$ in the tension of muscular contraction, wherein said contractions are achieved with an inducer of smooth muscle contraction comprising at least one inducer selected from a chemical stimulant, an electrical stimulant and combinations thereof.

25. (New) A method for evaluating a medicine against asthenopia, comprising

contacting the ciliary muscle from a non-human animal in the experimental model of claim 23 with said medicine, and

measuring the effect of said medicine on the contraction of said ciliary muscle.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the effect of the medicine is evaluated by comparing the decrease in tension of muscular contraction before and after contacting with the medicine.

27. (New) The method claimed of claim 25, carried out with use of a Magnus apparatus.